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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 662  
By Langster

A RESOLUTION to honor Bishop Joseph N. Perry for his  
many admirable achievements in his Life's  
Work in service of Christ.

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper that the members of this General Assembly should pause to honor those persons who devotedly serve the Lord, and also serve their fellow human beings in the process; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Joseph Perry is one such individual who is richly deserving of the special commendation of this body; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Perry has exhibited uncommon integrity, diligence, and compassion as an exemplary religious leader; and

WHEREAS, the Most Reverend Joseph N. Perry, J.C.L., D.D., presently serves as episcopal vicar for Vicariate VI of the Archdiocese of Chicago, which encompasses 78 parishes and over sixty elementary and secondary schools; and

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WHEREAS, ordained as a priest in 1975, Bishop Perry was appointed auxiliary bishop to Cardinal Francis George by Pope Paul II on May 5, 1998; and

WHEREAS, previous to his episcopal appointment, he served 23 years as a priest of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, having duties as an associate pastor and pastor of urban and inner city parishes, respectively; and

WHEREAS, in between parish assignments, Father Perry was assigned to studies in canon law at the Catholic University of America, Washington D.C. and thereafter served 18 years in the Tribunal Department of the archdiocese, functioning first as advocate and then as judge in the matrimonial, administrative and appeals courts; and

WHEREAS, he had the post of Judicial Vicar for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee for 12 of those years, while teaching courses in canon law at various seminaries and the Marquette University Law School; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Perry publishes widely in canon law journals and Catholic periodicals on issues treating ecclesiastical governance and the rights of persons within the Church; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Perry is the son of Joseph and Elizabeth Perry and a beloved descendant of Jim Alec and Louise Orr; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Perry is loved and respected by family and friends from the great State of Tennessee and from Kentucky, Illinois, and Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Perry has traveled to the aforementioned states to officiate at ceremonies related to his family's spiritual growth; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Perry (while Father Perry) also attended or officiated at the funerals of his cousins, Kenneth Anthony, Rosemary Yvonne, Robert Bryant and Irene Orr, and his Aunt Ruth Bryant; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Perry (while Father Perry) officiated at the wedding of his cousin, Lois Orr Winston, to Everette Luke Winston at the historic Assumption Church in Nashville; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Perry officiated at the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary mass of his cousin, Sister Mary Joseph O.P., of Marbury, Alabama; and

WHEREAS, he enjoys frequent visits to his mother and father, family members in Louisville, Kentucky, his aunt Rose Britt, his cousins Grand and Mary Britt, and their spouses and children; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Perry enjoys the love and support of family members in Illinois, including his brothers, sister, and cousins; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Perry is an honorable man of God, and it is fitting that he should be specially recognized for his life of purpose and commitment to Christian service and his fellow human beings; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we extend to Bishop Joseph N. Perry our heartfelt thanks for his meritorious service to the people of Tennessee as an accomplished and dedicated spiritual leader, and wish him well in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.